

I am totally convinced that the Church of the future must be
prayerful and reflective .

It is our daily dialogue with the Spirit that allows us to go forward
and which keeps us young and interested.

If prayer and reflection on the scriptures are not part of our lives
as individuals and communities, there will be no future
because it is communion with God that energises and fortifies us.

**Relating faith to daily life, applying the Gospel
to our work, our professions, our families,
will be part of the future.**

The challenge for the believer is to know how to connect faith to
life , how to connect Sunday worship with to work on Monday,
Tuesday, Wednesday....

And to be committed to that connection of faith and life.

To be continued.....

Brought to you by
the Catholic Parish of Hastings Environmental and Social Justice
Group

Reflecting on.....

Caritas Lenten Theme:

LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

Part One

**In the words of
Cardinal John Dew
to his people.....**

Extracts from

“The Future of the Church

Kote Hahi a Mua”

“Catholics have the most credible
example of leadership in Pope Francis”.

A Vision for the Church from Cardinal John Dew.

I want people to know that they belong to a Church that is
life-giving and enjoyable

'Negativity and sadness are not Christian attitudes.'

Just be friendly.

Most of the time people want us to be friendly and kind, to
welcome them, accept them and show them they belong. This is
not just for leaders but for ALL OF US.

*When the Church of today and of the future enables all people
to belong , then we are the Church.*

We are members of the one body .

**JUST BE FRIENDLY ! Being friendly is the human thing
to do.**

**The Church has to be full of kindness .That means every
individual has to be full of kindness.**

It may be best summed up in the words of
Suzanne Aubert : *"Above all things let us be kind.
Kindness is what most resembles God"*

I also want people to see that
the CHURCH IS YOUNG.

I am not talking about the demographics of age.
I am talking about the Church being young in spirit .

This is seen in Pope Francis, 82 years of age, but

full of energy,

full of wit ,

vital and alive,

Interested and ready to greet
anyone.



**It is the Spirit of God who keeps us young ,
open to new ideas and fresh ways of operating .**

The Spirit inspires us to do things differently.

The Church can never be staid.

It can never be boring,

because it is about LIFE.

**Pope Francis said recently: "A Christian is always
young... either you are young in heart and soul or
you are not fully Christian."**